

POLITICS REDHOT IN ANNE ARUNDEL

Contests in Every District of the County—Primaries to Be Held This Month.

[Special to The American.]

Annapolis, Md., July 18.—Anne Arundel county, the home of bitter partisan and factional politics, is again in the throes of violent fights within the ranks of both of the parties preparatory to the Democratic primaries on the 22d of this month, and the Republican on the 29th. While there are to be hard-fought contests in all of the seven districts over nominations, the individual office-seeker is lost sight of in the intense struggle for party leadership which will take place within both parties.

Among the Democrats, Dr. George Wells will again be battling against a combination which opposes him, and Dr. Washington G. Tuck, the postmaster of Annapolis, and veteran leader of the Anne Arundel Republicans, will contest the claim that his usefulness as a leader is over. No single man can be named as Dr. Wells' special competitor for leading honors, the combination being formed of Dr. Frank A. Bond and James B. Bannon, in the Fourth district; I. N. Nutwell, in the Eighth; Frank S. Revell, who seeks to hold the place of the late Senator Elijah J. Williams, in the Third, and Robert Moss, in the Sixth (Annapolis).

Robert L. Wernitz, principal of a school for the preparation of candidates for the Naval Academy and a large property-owner, is mentioned as county leader as opposed to Dr. Tuck. Daniel H. Randall, ex-state's attorney and just defeated for city counsellor in the Annapolis election, was also named to take Dr. Tuck's place, but it now seems that he and Dr. Tuck are working in perfect harmony.

In Democratic ranks there will be a contest for county commissioner with at least two contestants for the nomination in every district. The three principal plums in the way of county nominations this fall are for sheriff, register of wills and treasurer. There is a spirited fight in the Third district, where Frank S. Revell, a former sheriff, wishes the nomination, and Alton B. Arnold seeks the place of treasurer. It is recognized that both of these nominations will not go to the same district. Arnold is an adherent of Dr. Wells. It is understood that B. Allen Welch will make a fight in the First for indorsement for treasurer.

In the First district Dr. Benjamin R. Davidson, one of Dr. Wells' staunchest friends, wishes to be nominated for register of wills. This naturally throws Mr. Welch, who is now chief clerk to the treasurer, in the camp of the anti-Wells forces, as the nomination of treasurer and register will surely not go to the same district.

In Annapolis Dr. Wells is making his principal fight for Joshua Linthicum, Jr., for the nomination for sheriff, who is opposed for the place by John B. Wells. Mr. Wells formerly resided in the Second district and is also making a fight there. It is not known that Dr. Wells is committed to any other candidate in Annapolis, though it is rumored that he is in favor of Samuel Brooke, Sr., president of the Board of County Commissioners, for a renomination for that office, and A. Theo. Brady, an Annapolis attorney, for the legislature.

Joseph H. Bellis, fire marshal of Annapolis and who led the fight in the Third ward very successfully at the municipal election, has been proposed for the nomination for county commissioner, and William H. Moss, president of the Business Men's Association of Annapolis, is an avowed candidate for the legislature. Mr. Moss does not adhere to any particular faction in the party, but desires to go to the legislature in advocacy of certain reforms in county and municipal government.

The fight against Dr. Tuck in the Republican ranks will be in Annapolis. It is conceded that it is unlikely that the control of the county can be wrested from Tuck's friends, but it is hoped that by securing the selection of a delegation in Annapolis hostile to him his influence cannot be exerted in the delegation. Dr. Tuck's political enemies claim that the nomination of Henkel, who was only defeated by eight votes for mayor of Annapolis, was entirely against Tuck's wishes, and that the same forces can obtain control of the city at the coming primaries.

Capt. John K. Gladden is the most pronounced opponent of Dr. Tuck in Annapolis. Luther A. Palmer, the incumbent, is Dr. Tuck's candidate for register of wills, and Joseph O. Fowler is mentioned for sheriff. Robert L. Wernitz has been mentioned for either treasurer or register of wills.